

7 April 1959

MEMORANDUM FOR: Assistant to DD/I (Planning)

SUBJECT: Semi-Annual Report to the President's
Board of Consultants

Attached is the progress report on the NIE Program requested in your memorandum of 27 March 1959.

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**Assistant Director
Basic Intelligence**

Enclosure:
Report on Basic Intelligence
dated 7 April 1959

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BASIC INTELLIGENCE

1. NIS produced by the contributing agencies during the reporting period brought the total to date to approximately 4,500 sections, including some 600 Maintenance sections. This represents 74% of initial world coverage, 96% coverage on the 25 JCS Priority I areas, and essentially complete coverage of the Sino-Soviet Bloc.

2. During the reporting period CINCNELM forwarded a special report on use of the NIS in connection with the 1958 Lebanon landings. This report (based on comments from US CINCEUR, CINCUSAREUR, CINCUSAFE, COMSIXTHFLT, COMFAIRELM, COMSTSELM, FLEINTCENELM) is a significant current reiteration of the essentiality of the NIS program. It finds these users requiring the full range of NIS topical coverage. The report in substance finds that the basic NIS coverage was needed and sound (for one major command "the most important single source" of intelligence), but that the value of the NIS was reduced because the content had not been brought more up to date. The report suggests that in general the published NIS be comprehensively maintained at intervals not to exceed five years.

3. The CINCNELM report underlines the continuing concern of the NIS Committee with increasing Maintenance production (approaching 50% of present contributions) at a time when over-all NIS production in the contributing agencies is being seriously affected by reductions of manpower and diversions of effort to crash and other departmental projects.

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